



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.
1100 NEW YORK AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON DC 20005

COPY MAILED

MAY 05 2008

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
NI, et al. :
Application No. 10/648,786 : DECISION GRANTING PETITION
Filed: August 27, 2003 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2)
Attorney Docket No. 1488.130000B/EKS/EJH :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2), filed May 2, 2008, to withdraw the above-identified application from issue after payment of the issue fee.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

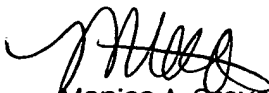
The above-identified application is withdrawn from issue for consideration of a submission under 37 CFR 1.114 (request for continued examination). See 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2).

Petitioner is advised that the issue fee paid on February 5, 2008 cannot be refunded. If, however, this application is again allowed, petitioner may request that it be applied towards the issue fee required by the new Notice of Allowance.¹

There is no indication that the person signing the petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute the above-identified application. However, the signature of Shannon A. Carroll, Ph.D. appearing on the petition shall constitute a representation to the United States Patent and Trademark Office that he or she is authorized to represent the particular party on whose behalf he or she acts in accordance with 37 CFR 1.34(a).

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-7253.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 1646 for processing of the request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and for consideration of the concurrently filed information disclosure statement.


Monica A. Graves
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

¹ The request to apply the issue fee to the new Notice may be satisfied by completing and returning the new Part B – Fee(s) Transmittal Form (along with any balance due at the time of submission). Petitioner is advised that the Issue Fee Transmittal Form must be completed and timely submitted to avoid abandonment of the application.